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Administration of Justice

Eliciting public opinion on the Civil Courts Act Amending Bill.

* 678 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras Advocates' Association has been consulted with regard to the Civil Courts Act Amending Bill, and if so, whether a copy of their opinion will be placed on the table of the House; and

(*b*) whether any other individuals or associations or bodies have been consulted in regard to the Bill; if so, whether a copy of the opinion of the said individuals or bodies will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No associations, bodies or individuals were consulted specifically on the Bill. However, prior to the framing of the Bill, the following bodies were consulted on certain proposals relating to the Court of Small Causes and the City Civil Court in Madras, one of which was the enhancement of the pecuniary jurisdicton of the latter court to Rs. 10,000:—

(1) The Madras Chamber of Commerce.
(2) The Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
(3) The Madras Trades Association.
(4) The Madras Bar Association.
(5) The Madras Advocates' Association.
(6) The Madras Bar Council.

The Southern India Chamber of Commerce was in favour of enhancing the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court to Rs. 5,000. The other bodies have not expressed themselves in favour of the proposal to increase the pecuniary jurisdiction to Rs. 10,000. The Government do not consider it necessary to place the correspondence between these bodies and them in connexion with the proposals on the table of the House.

Electricity

Progress of the Electrification Scheme in Salem and Erode.

* 679 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the quantity is of electric current consumed in each month in the municipal area of Salem since its introduction;

(*b*) what the quantity consumed is in each month in the Erode municipal area since its introduction;

(*c*) whether the progress made in each of these municipal areas is satisfactory; and

(*d*) if the progress is not rapid, what it is due to?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] giving the particulars is appended.

(*c*) The Chief Engineer for Electricty reports that the load for Salem and the South Indian Railway, Erode, is satisfactory but that in Erode town is disappointing.

(*d*) The unsatisfactory progress in Erode is ascribed by the licensees to a certain amount of local opposition to the popularization of electricity.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I have to announce that the undermentioned candidates were declared duly elected to the Senate of the University of Madras by the non-Official Members of the Council:—

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
Mrs. Alamelumangathayaramma.
Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
,, T. Sundararao Nayudu.
,, C. Basu Dev.
Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1934-35.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The general discussion on the Budget will now commence."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, ever since I entered this Council I have been telling the Government that the system of taxation followed here and also the incidence thereof were such that it is the poor that is mainly made to support the Government of this Province and that it was against all canons or principles of taxation. This year, however, in his speech introducing the Budget, the Hon. the Finance Member has, I am glad, expressed the sentiment that the Government have got duties not only to those who pay the taxes but also to those that do not pay any. Well, Sir, now that he has recognized that, he will have to consider the other aspect of the matter, namely, who is to contribute towards the expenses of the administration—expenses which the Hon. Member says that the Government have to meet. This is one of the points on which I have been addressing the Government for the last so many years in this Council.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 180 infra.